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Whereby certify that on 1-17-2002, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Trudi Thompson
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PATENT
HUGHES 16002903

Applicant: **Fitzhugh et al**
Serial No.: **09/865,242**
Filed: **5/25/2001**
Title: **NITRIC OXIDE-
RELEASING METAL
MEDICAL DEVICES**

Group Art Unit: **1615**
Examiner: **B. Fubara**
Docket No.: **17363.38**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant(s) submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware that may be considered in connection with the above-referenced patent application. Submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "material" to Applicants' invention as that term is currently defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (37 CFR § 1.97(h)).

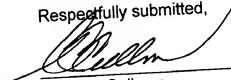
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other relevant information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

A Patent and Trademark Office Form 1449 listing each of these informational items is enclosed along with a copy of each item.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the issuance of the first Office Action. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$180 filing fee and any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1901.

Respectfully submitted,



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January __, 2002

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